REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-19 remain pending in this application. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new claims have been added.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hunter et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0026251), taken with Yamada et al (U.S. Patent No 5,990,629) in view of Kaneko et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,323,847) taken with Traa (U.S. Patent No.4,991,119). These rejections are traversed as follows.

Applicants believe that, at a minimum, claim 2 should also be indicated as being allowable. Therefore, claim 2 has been written in independent form and claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner may be confusing an initial charge with a reset or a pre-charge. The current of an initial charge is a peak current for an organic EL element (referred to as "OEL element") or a capacitor. The initial charge of the OEL element performs

charging at the start time of light emission to emit light earlier. A reset current or a reset voltage cancels or clears the written voltage value of the capacitor. A pre-charge is similar to a constant voltage reset equal to or less than a predetermined voltage (for example, transistor threshold voltage). Therefore, an initial charge is quite different from a reset or a pre-charge.

According to the present invention, a plurality of current drive circuits each generate a current for charging the capacitor of each pixel circuit through a data line or column pin and a current for initially charging the OEL element. Furthermore, each current drive circuit has a charging circuit for generating a current or a voltage for initially charging the capacitor.

None of the cited references disclose these features of the presently claimed invention. Neither Hunter et al, Yamada et al, Kaneko et al nor Traa disclose a display element which is driven by a peak current for initial charging. The display element 20 of Hunter et al is not driven by an initial charge current, but instead by the stored voltage of capacitance 38 via transistor 30 (see paragraphs [0035]-[0040]). Capacitance 38 is not charged by a current or a voltage of an initial charge, but instead is charged by a two-step mode. A first mode charges capacitance 13 to a transistor threshold voltage and a second mode charges capacitance 38 to a transistor control voltage (see paragraphs [0001]-[0016], [0032] and [0042]).

Display element 11, or 51, of Yamada et al is not driven by a current of an initial charge, but instead is driven by a drive signal maintained by capacitor Cp via

transistor 12, or 52. Capacitor Cp is not charged by a current or a voltage of the initial charge, but instead by drain driver 4 (see Figs. 1, 10, 12, 16, 19 and column 6, line 57 to column 7, line 9, column 13, line 58 to column 14, line 42, column 19, line 3 to column 20, line 34 and column 23, line 57 to column 24, line 34).

Kaneko et al disclose a dot-matrix type liquid crystal display. The capacitor voltage disclosed by Kaneko et al does not drive a display element but is used to clamp a video signal (see capacitor C in Figs. 1 and 4 and column 2, lines 24-31 and column 6, lines 14-34).

Traa discloses a TV system with a CRT type display. The capacitor voltage does not drive a display element but generates a vertical deflection signal (see capacitors 6, 8 and 13 in the figure and at column 3, lines 3-47).

Therefore, none of the cited references disclose a plurality of current drive circuits that generate a current for charging a capacitor of each pixel circuit through a data line or column pin and a current for initially charging the OEL element. In addition, none of the cited references disclose that each current drive circuit has a charging circuit for generating a current or a voltage for initially charging the capacitor. As such, it is submitted that all of the pending claims patentably define the present invention over the cited art.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By _____
Shrinath Malur
Reg. No. 34,663
(703) 684-1120